

are not prepared to reconsider that order. But we shall consider the representation that licenses may be issued to individuals for collecting the leaves.

SUBJECT No. 38.

Modifying the present rule of issuing *mafi rahadari* for the transport of tangadi bark.

Mr. Syed Budan Sab, Hiriya Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Government contractors are put to much loss by holders of *mafi* licenses for the transport of Tangadi bark. The coolies employed by the Government contractors deceive their masters and sell a portion of the bark collected by them to *mafi rahadari* holders by stealth. It is not possible to prevent this mischief so long as the present rules of issuing *mafi rahadari* continue. This difficulty was explained last year and an amendment to the rules requested. Early orders are now solicited in the matter.

Mr. Karnick Krishnamurti Rao.—Mr. Budan Sab is absent, but the question is important and the other side also must be viewed sympathetically. I have received one or two telegrams that I should urge this point in this Assembly. As far as possible, Government must protect occupants of land on which tangadi grows against the mischief of Government contractors. We must have perfect liberty to sell the things we grow on our lands as we like and not necessarily to the Government contractors.

Dewan.—What is the remedy you suggest?

Mr. Karnick Krishnamurti Rao.—Produce on forests and unoccupied land may generally be given to contractors, but that on an occupied land may be allowed to be disposed of by the owner.

Mr. H. Krishna Sastri.—We cannot be compelled to sell our goods to the particular contractor. If the contractor fears that his contract area will be tampered with he has to keep special watch and protect his property and not to compel us to sell what we have to him.

The Revenue Commissioner.—There is no rule that permits of your being compelled to sell the bark on your land to the Government contractor.

Mr. Karnick Krishnamurti Rao.—There is no rule but in practice there is difficulty and we want relief.

Dewan.—Government want to introduce rules for the grant of licenses and the Conservator has submitted proposals for sanction. If when the rules have been passed there is still any difficulty, it may be brought to the notice of Government and will be considered. The object of Government in framing rules will be (i) to protect their tangadi revenue, it being a substantial revenue, and (ii) not to interfere so far as it is unnecessary to do so with the *mafi* licenses. The rules will be published in the Gazette and one month's time allowed before they are introduced.